

**Minutes From a Meeting of the Concordia Council on
Student Life**

**Held on Friday, January 30, 2004
SGW Campus Hall 769 10:00am**

PRESENT: Dr. C. Bertrand, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Ms W. Avalos, Ms S. Bakarally, Mr. P. Blais, Mr. R. Côté, Mr. W. Curran, Mr. B. Farrington, Me P. Frégeau, Dr. S.M. Graub, Mr. B. Hamideh, Dr. J. Jans, Ms F. Naqvi, Ms S. Novembre, Mr. S. Rosenshein, Ms. D. Ross, Ms K. Sheehan, Ms C. Steenbergen, Ms L. Gould, Ms K. Hedrich, Ms L. Lipscombe, Ms L. Toscano

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Dr. F. Shaver, Mr. J. Brisebois, Ms C. Boujaklian

ABSENT: Mr. A. Talaat

GUESTS: Ms A. Ghadban

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was carried unanimously.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Bertrand welcomed Dr. N. Howe to her first CCSL meeting as a replacement as of January 2004 for Dr. J. Jans. He also took the opportunity to thank Dr. Jans for his valued participation.

Dr. Bertrand confirmed that the Muslim Students Association "lock problem" had been solved. However, as Mr. Brisebois was not in attendance, there was no update on the possible installation of an emergency telephone in the Campus Centre.

Dr. Bertrand confirmed that the motion concerning identification of security on campus has been forwarded to the Vice-Rector, Services. To date there has been no response. However, Ms Avalos indicated that students still are encountering resistance from some security guards with respect to identifying themselves. Dr. Bertrand indicated the issue can be raised again at CCSL when Mr. Brisebois is present.

Dr. Bertrand noted that he had received a complaint from the students, staff and faculty with respect to the shuttle bus and the lack of adequate service for the Concave community. As Dr. Bertrand will follow-up on this issue, he will keep Council apprised.

Dr. Bertrand noted that the following was distributed for Council's interest or comments:

- Fall 2003 Student Services Directors' reports
- Off-Campus Housing and Job Bank Interim Report
- Revised CCSL Outstanding Contribution to Student Life Nomination Form

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF November 28, 2003:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Rosenshein and seconded by Ms Avalos.

The motion to approve the minutes was carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Motion #9 (B. Farrington – Off-Campus Housing & Job Bank)

4.2 Motion #2 (P. Blais – Off-Campus Housing & Job Bank)

Mr. Farrington, seconded by Mr. Rosenshein, asked that Motions #2 & #9 be considered as one motion. As Mr. Blais had no objection, the revised motion was put to a vote:

Whereas the Concordia Student Union Off Campus Housing and Job Bank is an essential, vital service to students;

Whereas the Concordia Council of Representatives passed unanimously a motion endorsed by both the Cando and Evolution Executive requesting the grant be restored;

Whereas a proper check on the funds granted to it is requested by the Concordia Council on Student Life;

Be it resolved that the amount of \$5,600 be restored to the Off-Campus Housing & Job Bank for years 2004-05 and 2005-06 of the Student Services Budget.

Be it further resolved that a committee of three people be struck to oversee and audit the use of these funds by the Concordia Student Union Off Campus Housing and Job Bank; the committee shall be composed of one representative of the Concordia Student Union, one representative of the Dean of Students Office, and one representative appointed by the Concordia Council on Student Life.

The motion was carried unanimously

Dr. Bertrand asked that nominations for this committee be submitted to the secretary of CCSL prior to the next meeting.

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Mr. Curran updated Council on the Crepuq pilot project that allows undergraduate students to have borrowing privileges at other universities. He reminded Council that this is a privilege not an automatic right. It is expected that undergraduate students will have exhausted the resources in their home university before a request is made. However, as the project was only launched in February 2003, a full report at a later date will give a clearer picture.

6. STUDENT LIFE ISSUES

Mr. Blais brought up the issue of reimbursements for the capital campaign and administrative fee bursary. He felt after reviewing the statistics in the Financial Aid report, that there should be more publicity in order to ensure that students are aware of the refund possibilities and procedures.

Mr. Blais spoke briefly about the ventilation problems in Reggie's. Smoking is allowed in Reggie's but the current system does not adequately ventilate the area. As there have been complaints about smoke creeping out into the hallways, Security has asked that the doors to Reggie's be kept closed which does not help the situation. As this is a health issue, Mr. Blais asked what could be done. Ms Posius suggested that Mr. Blais contact Ms Boujaklian in Physical Resources. However, Ms Posius said that a quick, healthy fix would be to make Reggie's a non-smoking area as is the rest of the university.

Mr. Hamideh asked if there was a way to ensure that the ventilation was in operation when there are events booked in the Hall Building on Saturdays and Sundays. He explained that the 7th floor Cafeteria which is used by student groups was especially problematic both in the winter and the summer. Ms Posius agreed with the concerns expressed by Mr. Hamideh but she explained that the infrastructure of the Hall Building is old. The result is the problem is very difficult to solve. There is no way that ventilation can be turned on and off for a specific area or for a specific time period. The whole building is either "on or off" and takes time to reach a desired temperature. She also reiterated the importance of using our resources responsibly. However, Ms Posius suggested that Mr. Hamideh could write Mr. P. Bolla in Facilities Management with these concerns and send a copy of the letter to her.

Mr. Farrington spoke briefly about the posterling problems on campus. He indicated that the Bulletin Boards were overrun with posterling from outside groups. Mr. Farrington explained that at the moment the CSU did not have a poster-person in its employ. Dr. Bertrand agreed with the concerns expressed but explained that the issue of "illegal posterling" is almost impossible to control. However, he will ask that the Dean of Students poster-person be more vigilant.

Ms Naqvi informed Council that the issue of an emergency phone in the Campus Centre was discussed at an Environmental, Health and Safety Meeting. She confirmed that the phone was to be installed today.

Ms Naqvi said although the 7th floor tables were cleaner, there were still no cleaning products available. Ms Posius explained that the cleaners preferred to provide extra service as opposed to providing cleaning supplies on site. However, a cleaning station will be incorporated in the new design of the 7th floor.

Ms Lipscombe spoke briefly about the Association of College Stores' concern with the high costs of textbooks and the frequency of new editions. She is chair of an advisory committee that has been set-up to address these issues and to find solutions. Ms Lipscombe will continue to update Council on this issue.

Ms Posius explained that the university is aware that many students have problems making ends meet. Financial constrictions often result in poor nutrition and eating habits. To that end, she proposed to use the relationship with Chartwell's, Concordia's food service provider, to find solutions to the problem. This partnership will help to ensure that the needs of our students are addressed in a discreet and pro-active manner. Mr. Farrington, Mr. Hamideh, Ms Avalos, Ms Ross and Ms Drew expressed interest in participating in this initiative.

7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE RECREATION & ATHLETICS BOARD

Ms Sheahan drew Council's attention to the report and motion concerning Recreation & Athletics Advisory Board (RAAB) and the Future Search Steering Committee. The report's recommendation is the creation of a single guiding body: Recreation and Athletics Steering Committee (RASC). Ms Toscano noted that there was no staff representation on RASC. As staff are often "high users" of the facilities, she felt it was important that the

staff have representation. A request to have 1 more student representative was also suggested. The composition of the committee will be revised to reflect these suggestions. The document will be tabled for approval at the March 2, 2004 CCSL meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Motion revised #3 Appointment of Dean of Students (P. Blais)

Mr. Blais spoke briefly to the motion. He felt that the selection of the Dean of Students is an important process and one that should have student involvement. He also felt it was important that this process be initiated as soon as possible. A brief discussion followed. Mr. Blais, seconded by Ms Avalos made the following motion:

Whereas Donald Boisvert quit as Dean of Students last January and a permanent replacement yet to be appointed;

Be it Resolved that CCSL recommend to Rector's cabinet to immediately start a process of selecting a permanent Dean of Students;

Be it further resolved that a committee be created composed of students and staff of the non-academic sector to select the new Dean of Students

The motion failed.

In favour 3

opposed 6

Abstentions 6

8.2 Motion #4 Student Services Project Surplus (Mr. P. Blais)

Mr. Blais spoke briefly to the motion. He explained that the student services budget is based on a projection of student fees. As there has been an increase in student enrollment this has resulted in additional revenues at year-end for student services. He asked that a CCSL committee be created to decide on the allocation of any year-end surpluses. Ms Drew appreciated Mr. Blais' concerns but she felt it was important to remember that any increase in student enrollment can also result in an increased need for additional services, staff and resources. It was important to take these additional costs into consideration when reviewing the budget. Mr. Côté asked if it would be prudent to defer this motion until the next CCSL meeting at which time he would be able to provide Council with a report on the actual figures versus the projected figures with respect to student enrollment for 2003-2004. As Mr. Blais and Ms Avalos, the seconder, had no objection the motion was tabled until the March 5th CCSL meeting.

8.3 Motion #6 Membership of CCSL (Mr. P. Blais)

Mr. Blais spoke briefly to the motion. He asked that the CCSL membership be increased by 2 additional undergraduate students and 1 graduate student. He

realized that parity would be disrupted but as the CCSL chair has a vote in the event of a tie he did not feel this was a true parity committee. Ms Avalos felt the increase would only benefit student services as more students with their diverse concerns and backgrounds would be contributing to student life in a tangible way. Mr. Côté, Dr. Howe and Me Frégeau spoke briefly to the issue of parity and of its importance and significance. Me Frégeau also indicated that to his knowledge the chair has never "used his vote". Dr. Bertrand added that if Council was divided down the middle on an issue the solution would be to revisit that issue to find a satisfactory conclusion. Mr. Blais, seconded by Mr. Rosenshein, made the following motion:

Whereas students are individuals mostly affected by student services

Whereas the student body is diverse and it is beneficial to have their voices heard

Be it resolved that CCSL recommends to the Board of Governors to modify policy BD-9 on the Concordia Council of Student Life to change its composition to read nine (9) undergraduates students instead of 7 and three (3) graduate students instead of two.

The motion failed.

In favour 7

Opposed 8

Abstentions 0

9. Next Meeting: March 5,2004 10:00 am Loyola Campus AD 308

10. Termination of Meeting

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Mr. Blais and seconded by Ms Ross.